

**SANITATION COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 30, 2014
TIME: 4:00 P.M.
MUNICIPAL BUILDING
ROOM 210
MIDDLETOWN CONNECTICUT**

Members Present: Chair Seb Santacroce
John Uccello
Thomas Goglia

Staff Present: William Russo, Public Works Director
Kimberly O'Rourke, Recycling Coordinator
Lee Matterazzo, Tax Collector

Absent: Bobbye Knoll Peterson
Monica Belyea

Chair Seb Santacroce opened the Sanitation Commission Meeting at 4:00 p.m. He made a motion to approve the July 22, 2014 minutes. Motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS:

Director Russo stated that the adjustments have been made and just need approval before final action can take place. Some of the locations are senior citizens that live alone that would prefer the smaller container. Seb Gurciullo, Sanitation Foreman, goes out and replaces the barrels. This is when the adjustment to the billing is made.

Refund - 144-146 Pearl Street, \$289.80 – Approved.

Refund - 135 Pearl Street, \$342.02 – Approved.

Refund - 150-156 Pearl Street, \$342.02 – Approved.

Refund - 660 High Street, \$342.02 – Approved.

Refund - 87 Baldwin Drive, \$16.12 – Approved.

Refund - 100 Jacobs Terrace, \$5.32 – Approved. This is interest charged to a bill that was never received.

Refund - 540 High Street, \$63.86 – Approved.

Refund - 19 St. John's Sq. Rectory, \$634.38 – Approved. This location pays a private contractor for garbage pickup. The only fee they should have been charged is the administrative fee of \$70.93, which is a state statute for being located in the sanitation district.

Chair Santacroce made a motion to approve the 7 refunds and 1 bill adjustment. Motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS:

- a. Cardboard Report - Director Russo stated that he has asked Kim O'Rourke, Recycling Coordinator, to give a report regarding the new single stream recycling program. Kim stated that 90 gallon recycling containers were dropped off to 29 properties on Jacobs Terrace and Chimney Hill. These locations will have their recycling picked up every other week. Their garbage will be picked up every week from a smaller 65 gallon container. The tonnage of recycling has increased significantly while the tonnage of garbage decreased. Expanding this program throughout the sanitation district could make a significant impact on the budget.

Director Russo asked Kim to explain the single stream process versus how it is being conducted currently. Kim stated that it is easier to recycle when households have the larger cart to fill up biweekly. After the recycling is picked up, it goes to a processing center where it is manually sorted out. The city gets paid \$15.00 per ton for the single stream recycling and even more for the cardboard. The lower the tonnage that gets sent to the garbage plant, the more revenue the city makes.

Director Russo mentioned that the sanitation truck drivers will eventually be working with an automated recycling truck for the new containers. Kim stated that the goal is to expand within the area including Bretton Road, Dora Drive and many of the side roads. It will be about 3-5 years until the whole district is working with the single stream recycling program and the automated trucks are brought into play.

- b. Delinquency Report – Director Russo stated that the delinquency report is generated by the Tax Collector's office. Lee Matterazzo, Tax Collector, stated that there are some accounts that were outstanding and were liened last month to ensure payment when a deed changes hands. Approved attorneys are still being used that work quickly and ask minimal questions while still guaranteeing payments, as a rule, within an acceptable period of time. Now that the collection period is over, there is currently a new list being worked on.

One of the commissioners asked if there is a form letter that can be sent out to let residents know they are delinquent. Lee stated that Liz Cyranowicz, Sanitation Clerk, sends out delinquency notices to ensure that residents in the district are aware of their dues. Lee mentioned that there are two or three households that are in bankruptcy. There are some businesses that have up to \$2,000.00 per cycle depending on how many bins they have and how many times per week they receive pickup.

When there are issues with people not making payments, barrels are pulled. The health department is then notified of the issue to prevent misplaced garbage bags. If bills are not paid and the health department pays a visit to the homeowner, they can be fined extra on top of the bills already owed.

Lee stated that the collection period has just been completed. Next comes the foreclosure actions for those that don't comply. Payment plans are made up through the attorneys for those behind on their bills. Payments are mostly made within 3-6 months, or up to a year if needed.

- c. Tonnage Report – Director Russo stated that the charts show the monthly totals for tonnage. The amount of tons going to the plant is constantly being reduced and studied to save money.

OTHER:

As there was no other business, the Sanitation Commission meeting was adjourned at 4:32 P.M